

The thrust of Neil and Insole too much for Wycombe

Sports Mail Special Report

COR.-CASUALS 5 : WYCOMBE WANDERS. 1

BOTH defences reeled under pressure at Kennington Oval this afternoon, but it was the Corinthian-Casuals who took their chances and ran out 5-1 winners against Wycombe Wanderers.

Corinthian Casuals: Swannell; Pitt, Newton; Simkins, Robertson, Smith; Insole, Sanders, Lee, Jacobs, Neil.

Wycombe Wanderers: Jones; Beck, Atkins; Ashby, Darville, Thomas; Rockell, Worley, James, Bates, Hyde. Referee: J Wright.

Because Tommy Holmes was still unfit, after his injury last week, Peter James played at centre forward for Wycombe.

Moving the ball swiftly and surely, Wycombe had Casuals in trouble with some smart raids. James, who was foraging hard, switched the ball out to Worley and then headed the centre just wide.

Dummying his man neatly, Worley cut through dangerously but Swannell dived to push the shot away for a corner. As Wanderers continued to press, Bates drove over the crossbar.

The talented footwork of Insole was the biggest menace to Wycombe, and from one of his moves Jones grabbed Neil's shot at the second attempt.

CASUALS AHEAD

As Wanderers rallied, the clever dribbling of Bates and Worley repeatedly troubled the Casuals defence, but the Wanderers wingers were really in the game. The Casuals retaliated through the speed of Neil and the trickery of Insole.

SANDERS shot Casuals into a 17th minute lead.

Although Wanderers were having as much of the play as the Casuals they were unable to finish. Hyde, prompted by Thomas, drove wide and James, flinging himself forward, just

failed to reach Worley's long centre.

Hyde missed a sitter for Wycombe and as play flashed to the other end Neil was equally guilty.

After SANDERS had hit a fine drive past Jones in the 31st minute, JAMES made the score 2-1 two minutes later, delicately controlling his downward header from Worley's centre.

Although Casuals were virtually reduced to ten men through injury, they made the score 3-1 through Lee, two minutes before the interval.

Half-time: Corinthian Cas. 3, Wycombe 1.

GREAT GOAL

Inspired dribbling by Worley, easily the best of the Wycombe forwards, gave Wanderers the chance of a quick goal, but Swannell smothered Rockell's fast drive.

The swift Casuals' forwards still carried the greater threat. Insole twice went close, but it was international Pat Neil streaking from the half-way line with Beck in vain pursuit, who gave LEE a splendid goal in the 65th minute.

A really unlucky goal put Wycombe further behind. Insole chipped across a centre and, with Wycombe in a tangle, goalkeeper Jones appeared to punch the ball on to a defender and into the goal.

RESULT:

CORINTHIAN CASUALS 5
WYCOMBE WANDERERS 1

WYCOMBE LACK POISE, PUNCH

Crnths-Cas 5 Wycombe W 1

NORMAN CREEK, team manager of England amateurs, saw this Isthmian League battle at The Oval to check the current form of Casuals' international left-winger, Pat Neil (writes COLIN BARRE).

Neil was brilliant. But Creek must have made some impressive notes about Wycombe's battling inside-right Len Worley.

Worley, and inside-left Paul Bates, were the most forceful forwards in an unimpressive Wycombe side that lacked the teamwork and speed of their more enthusiastic rivals.

Wycombe need to re-plan their tactics around Worley. His energy and skill were too often wasted by unnecessary attempts to retrieve a ball that should have been delivered to him by a better service from the defence.

Casuals were two goals up in 32 minutes, through inside-right John Sanders.

Peter James, Wycombe's reserve centre forward, reduced the lead, then Gerry Lee made it 3-1 at half-time.

Neil raced half the length of the field before making a perfect centre, from which Lee scored Casuals' fourth goal.

In a goalmouth scramble, a Casuals forward appeared to handle the ball, and Wycombe's goalkeeper, Jones, fisted it up on to the underside of the bar and back into his own net for No. 5.